to hear you. *..(Interruptions)...*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I want to listen to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let me say this. This subject of clarfications from the Law Minister was on the Order Paper for a number of days. Even Mr. Jaswant Singh wanted to say something on the hijacking issue. But, because of what happened in the House, this could not be taken up. It is not that the Government was not ready, but the situation was such, and we could not help it. So, the question is: how to go about it? In the meanwhile, many other things have come up. That is why, I know, the number of Calling Attentions was very limited and the number of Special mentions was also very limited. It happened because the situation was such. That is all right. Now, today, we decided to take up as many Special Mentions as possible. We also decided to take up two statements, one on the Bodo issue and the other about Karnataka, which we discussed yesterday. the Minister will make statements and clarifications will come. If come. If you want to seek clarifications, I suggest that you sit late in the evening and, then, have clarifications from both the Ministers.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, that is fine, We are prepared for that *..(Interruptions)...*

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Sir, there is report in the *Pioneer* that *karela, jamun* and *brinjal*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. Don't bring that issue now. *..(Interruptions)...* You can give it as Special Mention and, then, we shall do it. *..(Interruptions)...* Now, Mr. Home Minister. *..(Interruptions)...* You did not take permission from me and still you want to raise this issue? *..(Interruptions)...* Your name is already there in the list of Special Mentions. Now, Mr. Home Minister.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Suspension of Operations Against Bodo Liberation Tigers

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this august House is aware of the history of militancy in Assam. The activities of various militant groups in the State have seriously

disturbed the public order resulting in loss of life and property, besides thwarting the economic development of the State. The people are fed up with violence and yearn for peace. The Government of India is committed to the restoration of peace. The Government of India has also extended an invitation to all the militant groups to come forward for talks within the four corners of our Constitution. In pursuance of the said offer, the Bodo Liberation Tigers (BLT) have suspended its operations against the Army, Para-Military Forces and the State Police. The BLT has also agreed to completely abjure the path of violence in both letter and spirit and not to indulge in any unlawful activities in case the Government of India announces suspension of operations against it.

In order to create an environment conducive to talks for finding a solution to the Bodo problem, the Government has decided to suspend operations against the BLT with immediate effect.

Effort are continuing to convince other militant groups in the North-East to suspend their violent and unlawful activities and come to the negotiating table.

Incident of Caste Violence in Kolar District of Karnataka on 11th March, 2000

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, yesterday in this House a mention was made of the violent incidents in Kolar district of Karnataka. In that connection, it was stated that the Home Ministry should obtain the facts and come to the House. We ascertained the facts from the State Government and on that basis I make the following statement.

As per information available with the Central Government, two incidents of violence and counter-violence between members of the Reddy community and the Scheduled Castes have been taken place in village Kambalapalli of Police Station Kencharlahalli in the District of Kolar, Karnataka. The incidents resulted in the stabbing and subsequent death of one Krishna Reddy and burning alive of seven members of the Scheduled Caste community.

The sequence of events reveals that on 11th March around 7.30 P.M. a group of 15-20 persons belonging to the Scheduled Caste community which